

**Abstract**

The present invention relates antisense oligonucleotide compounds for use in modulating the function of nucleic acid molecules encoding mammalian MMP-12. More specifically, the invention provides compounds of 8 to 50 nucleobases in length capable of specifically 5 hybridising with nucleic acid molecules encoding MMP-12 and thereby inhibiting the expression of the MMP-12 protein product, as well as pharmaceutical compositions thereof and methods of its use.

---